Supplement No. 11.

GEO. MÉLIÈS

of Paris.

Cinematographic-Films, Life Moving Pictures, Comical, Magical, Mystical Views, Trick-Films, Actualities, etc.



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TITLE

Length about

527-533 The Damnation of Faust (a grand fantastical fantasy in 15 motion tableaux, inspired by Berlioz's

- 1 The Route to the Depths of Perdition.—After the death of Marguerite, Mephistopheles takes possession of Doctor Faust. They mount a mettlesome steed upon which the latter is borne away to the realm of Satan.
- 2 The Fantastical Ride.—Faust and Mephistopheles pass across the picture at a terrific rate. Along the horizon a fantastical panorama is unrolled with dazzling rapidity whilst the horse gallops at a break-neck pace.
- 3 The Gloomy Pass.—In the horizontal evolution of the panorama one sees the horse and his two riders enter into a narrow gorge with steep sides and of a lonely aspect. They disapper in the distance.
- 4 The Cataract.—The picturesque setting represents a huge wall of bare rocks of a dizzy height from the summit of which falls a mass of natural water. Mephistopheles descends from the top dragging Faust after him. A trail of fire follows closely after the demon as he makes his way down the steep slope. They arrive at the cataract and as it bars their passage, Mephistopheles command it to cease, thereby disclosing the mouth of a cavern into which the two personages enter. Immediately after their entrance the waterfall flows again with mighty force.

- 5 The Entrance to the Lower Regions.—This tableau represents a sort of declivitous tunnel which slopes down into the bowels of the earth. Mephistopheles continues to drag Faust on. But in spite of the latter's protestations the two proceed down to the subterranean regions.
- 6 The Marvelous Grottoes.—These two personages next pass through a series of grottoes effectively painted, as they wend their way to Satan's empire. Rapid changes of varied tableaux marvelously constructed.
- 7 The Crystal Stalactites.—A grand fantastical grotto hung with stalactites of crystal which in the infernal light shine with amazing splendor.
- 8 The Devil's Hole.—Mephistopheles gives Doctor Faust a few moments of rest, for he is almost worn out from the 'long and arduous journey which they have pursued uninterruptedly. Then he points to a shadowy passageway—the Devil's hole—and he commands Faust shaking with fear to advance. (Dissolving view.)
- 9 The Ice Cavern.—The preceding setting, dim and gloomy, gives way to a resplendent scene, a magnificent cavern of transparent ice.
- 10 The Goddesses of Antiquity.—At the command of Mephistopheles the goddesses of ancient mythology who dwell in the realm of Satan come forth from the ground and execute a brilliant ballet. For a moment Faust forgets his sad fate and enjoys with unalloyed delight the wonders Satan shows to him.
- 11 The Subterranean Cascade.—Suddenly the dancers vanish into space, and the rotto is transformed into a grand cascade of natural water occupying the entire
- 12 The Nymphs of the Underworld. The Seven-Headed Hydra. The Demons.—
 In the midst of the falling water of the cascade there appear almost imperceptibly some naiads floating about in the air, and others are grouped around forming a charming ensemble. They gradually fade away and in the water trickling down the cliff there appears a monster in the shape of a seven-headed hydra which twists restlessly about much to the fright of Faust. This beast disappears in his turn and demons bearing burning torches pass to and fro over the falls while performing all sorts of capregions. They set fire to the cavern; the fire finally triumphs over the water which ceases to flow. Mephistopheles seizes Faust and wraps him in his cloak, and both then vanish into the ground.
- 13 The Descent to Satan's Domain.—Faust and Mephistopheles descend through space in a sort of well hollowed out of the rock. As the walls are made to move rapidly upward in the picture the effect upon the spectator is that of two people leaping down from a great height to unknown depths below. (A new trick highly sensational.)
- 14 The Furnace. As Faust and his Master descend they arrive from the top of the picture at a grotto of fire and flames terrifying in its appearance. They have reached the end of their journey. Faust is hurled into the furnace which immediately sends forth a cloud of smoke and fire while a band of demons dance merrily about in wild and fiendish contortions.
- 15 The Triumph of Mephistopheles. Apotheosis.—The inhabitants rush in from every direction, and amid the mighty flames they form a strikingly picturesque ensemble. Mephistopheles rises above the crowd with an air of triumph, and crowns the scene by spreading his enormous wings after the maner of a fantastical bat. His subjects render their homage to the Master of the Infernal Powers.

Our film No. 562, "Faust and Marguerite," which has met with unprecedented success, forms a natural beginning to the above subject.